



**Town of Fairfax**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**February 17, 2020 – 7:00pm**

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The drafted minutes presented below are unapproved subject to corrections and/or additions at the next Selectboard meeting. Those corrections and/or additions will be written to an amended version of the minutes, which will also be made available to the public.

**Selectboard Members Present:** Steve Cormier; Chair, Randy DeVine; Vice-Chair, Stephen Bessette, Duane Leach, Sheri Rainville

**Public Present:** Robby Rodimer, Brain Flint, Sydney M, Jamieson Staab, Joe Langelier, Renee & Adam Rainville, Tim Downs, Matt Rainville, Jordan Hayes, Karen Langelier, Mitchell Clark, Shelly Pottala, John Young, Chris Stafford, Louise K., Linda Corey, L. Pottala, Jacob Langelier, Ben Langelier, Nate Charboneau, Nick H., Aaron Rabtoy & Scott Morean

**Employees Present:** Brad Docheff (Town Manager), Debbie Woodward

**Call to Order:** S. Cormier called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Announcements/Additions & Deletions:** 1 Deletion, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Class liquor license application for the Inn at Grace Farms, will not be discussed this evening.

**Minutes:**

2-3-2020 S. Bessette made the motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Sheri, all in favor.

**Accounts Payable & Payroll Warrants:**

2-10-2020 The Town and Utility warrants were reviewed by Duane.

2-17-2020 The Town and Utility warrants were reviewed by S. Cormier.

**Public Forum:** Robby Rodimer asked the board for permission at Town Meeting for Patsy Parker to speak regarding a grant received for BFA. The grant is a "BOGO" If the school purchases one electric bus, the grant will match and purchase a second electric bus. The Selectboard approved.

**Correspondence:**

- Boundary Validation Form (US Census) A map was received to review the boundary lines, Brad, Sheri and Amber Soter reviewed and verified the information. S. Cormier signed the form.
- Sewer Final Approval for LNP, 8 & 10 Paige Estates, S. Bessette made the motion to approve both, seconded by Duane, all in favor.
- Letter from Department of Public Safety: The Vermont State Police are proposing periodic meetings with the Selectboard.

- Liquor License Renewals for Nan's Mobil and Minor's Country Store: Sheri made the motion to accept both renewals, seconded by Duane, all in favor.

**Jamieson Staab: regarding Second Amendment & Article 16 of the Vermont**

**Constitution:** Jamieson and 24 supporters were in this evening to request the Selectboard pass a resolution to become a Second Amendment Sanctuary Township. This is a symbolic gesture and is not legally binding, under Vermont State Statute V.S.A. 24 §2295 prohibiting individual municipalities in Vermont from regulating firearms and ammunition. Currently there are 12 Towns in Vermont that have adopted the resolution, 6 have gone or are going to Town Meeting, and one Town (Barre) has made a statement of support.

There was a 45-minute discussion between the Selectboard, Jamieson and the supporters. Questions asked were,

If this is non-legally binding, then what is to be gained? It shows support for our rights.

Has this "group" reached out to Barb Murphy, (Town of Fairfax State Rep)? With a State Rep whose opinion is against them, they "the group" are coming direct to Selectboards.

Why come to the Selectboard and not go to the voters? By having the Selectboard pass this resolution, it sends a message that the Town recognizes the rights of its people.

S. Cormier several times urged that this is something that should be brought to the voters of Fairfax. An article should be written to be placed on a ballot. That way you have the support or no support from the Town residents and not just 5 Selectboard members making the decision.

Jamieson read a statement of support adopted by Barre Town, which read;

The Board stands in support of the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America and Article 16 of the Constitution of the State of Vermont, in which the people have the right to keep and bear arms for the defense of themselves and the State. The Board implores the Vermont General Assembly and the Governor to refrain from passing any further legislation that would serve to infringe upon that right.

Randy made the motion to accept the Statement of Support, seconded by S. Besette, 3 in favor. S. Cormier and Sheri voted nay

**Fairfax Fire Dept.: Annual Election of Officers:** The following members were elected to positions:

C1 Chief Jesse Fleming, C2 Deputy Chief Matt Gillilan, C3 Captain Eric Smith, C4 Captain Mark Couture, C5 Captain Alex Paci, C6 lieutenant Aaron Sanders and C7 lieutenant Calvin Caswell.

S. Bessette made the motion to accept the positions, seconded by Duane, all in favor.

**Vermont Alert System:** Memorandum for Vermont Emergency Management to adopt the VT-Alert as a public safety notification system. The board approved; S. Cormier signed the adoption.

**Energy Committee:** This will be a new committee chartered by By-laws.

S. Bessette made the motion to accept the Energy Committee Charter, seconded by Sheri, all in favor.

Utility Dept.: Sewer Allocation Application changes: Submitted was the change from Selectboard Approval on a final connection to the Chief Sewer Operator. Also included are 3 new points to help applicants better see what's required. Sheri made the motion to accept the changes, seconded by S. Bessette, 4 in favor, Randy abstained.

**Town Manager Updates:**

- US Census is looking for volunteers to gather data. The census is very important, the data collected is used for funding allocations for our community.
- There was a pre-bid meeting on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> for the Utility Sewer extension. 7 Firms attended, we had a tour of the Wastewater Plant and Runamok Maple. Bids are due by 4:00 Friday February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Congressman Peter Welch will be in Town Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. He will do a brief tour and make stops in Fairfax.
- Dept. Updates:  
Highway: There will be a pre bid meeting on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 at the Shepardson Hollow Bridge. Bids are due by 10:00 on March 11<sup>th</sup>. The Selectboard will decide on March 16<sup>th</sup> whom to use.  
Utility Dept. Meters continue to go in. We are almost complete  
Recreation: There will be a variety show in March. Information to come.
- Routes 128 & 104, at a recent TAC meeting, they will be sending a letter to VTRANS in support of an evaluation.
- Town Meeting is Saturday February 29<sup>th</sup>. The Town is scheduled for 10:00

**Other Business:**

**Adjournment:**

At 8:23 S. Bessette made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Duane, all in favor.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Amy Sears; Administrative Assistant.

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Steven Cormier  
Selectboard Chair

**\*\* The recorded meeting is available through LCATV or the Town's website. \*\***